

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 NASA-02 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 RSC-01 H-02

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

MC-02 /099 W

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R 202008Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5351

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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DEPT FOR OES/SCI/SAM, PASS NASA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, NASA

SUBJECT: FRANCO-GERMAN AGREEMENT ON SPACE ISSUES

1. SUMMARY: FRENCH AND GERMAN RESEARCH  
MINISTERS HAVE ARRIVED AT A COMMON APPROACH ON A  
NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING SPACE ISSUES. THEY AGREED  
ON HOLDING A MINISTERIAL MEETING IN  
EARLY SPRING TO GET THE STALLED EUROPEAN SPACE  
AGENCY UNDERWAY AND ON THE URGENT NEED TO FILL FOUR  
VACANT PROGRAM POSITIONS IN ESRO. THESE  
POSITIONS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FILLED, INCLUDING THE AP-  
POINTMENT OF BERNARD DE LOFFRE AS MANAGER OF THE  
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SPACELAB PROGRAM. LESS CLEAR ARE AGREEMENTS IN PRIN-

CIPLE ON THE PRIORITY OF USING EUROPEAN LAUNCHERS (ARIANE) AND SPACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (SPACELAB) AND ON EUROPEAN FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN THE FRENCH KOUROU SPACE CENTER. IN THE AREA OF COMPUTERS, THE FRENCH LEFT UNRESOLVED THE FATE OF THE FRENCH PARTICIPANT IN THE FRENCH-GERMAN-DUTCH COMPUTER CONSORTIUM UNIDATA. END SUMMARY.

2. MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH D'ORNANO MET WITH GERMAN MINISTER FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH HANS MATTHOEFER ON OCT 16, 1974, IN BONN TO DISCUSS COMPUTER AND SPACE POLICIES. THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING WERE DESCRIBED IN A FRENCH COMMUNIQUE ISSUED SUBSEQUENTLY UPON THE LAUNCHING OF THE SYMPHONIE EXPERIMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE. THE RELEASE QUOTED MINISTER D'ORNANO AS WELCOMING THE GROWING ACCORD BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND STATED THAT THE TWO MINISTERS REACHED A "COMMON APPROACH" ON:

A) THE PRIORITY ON USING LAUNCHERS AND SPACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPED BY EUROPE (COMMENT: THE REFERENCES ARE OBVIOUSLY TO ARIANE AND SPACELAB. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE FRENCH HAVE RECOGNIZED A PRIORITY FOR USING SPACELAB.),

B) THE PRINCIPAL OF EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN THE FINANCING OF THE FRENCH SPACE CENTER IN GUYANA,

C) THE NEED TO ACT SOON TO NAME PROGRAM DIRECTORS IN ESRO,

D) THE NECESSITY OF HOLDING A MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING TO GET THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESA) UNDERWAY.

3. ON 17 OCT, SCIATT AND NASA EUROPEAN REP MET WITH GERMAN SCIENCE ATTACHE SAUER TO CLARIFY THE REPORTS OF THE D'ORNANO-MATTHOEFER. SAUER CLAIMED THAT THE FRENCH WANT TO INCLUDE THE STATEMENT OF PRIORITY FOR THE ARIANE SPACE LAUNCHER IN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY. THE GERMANS, HOWEVER, FELT THAT THAT WAS NOT THE PLACE FOR IT. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN, SAUER ASKED, IF THE ARIANE WAS A FAILURE OR WAS ABANDONED? HE STRESSED THAT THE AGREE-  
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MENT ON SHARING THE COST OF THE KOUROU CENTER WAS ONE OF PRINCIPLE, AND HE PERSONALLY DOUBTED THAT THE EUROPEANS WERE IN ANY POSITION OR HUMOR TO SPEND MORE MONEY ON SPACE. HE REPORTED THE FRENCH INDICATED A NEW WILLINGNESS TO PROCEED WITH THE ESA CONVENTION WITHOUT FINAL AGREEMENT ON KOUROU FUNDING DETAILS, PROVIDED A POSITIVE ATTITUDE EXISTED AMONG MEMBER STATES. REGARDING THE PROPOSED MINIS-

TERIAL CONFERENCE ON ESA, HE SAID THAT THE PRELIMINARY  
WORK WOULD BE DONE AT A MEETING OF MINISTERIAL ALTER-  
NATIVES IN MID-JANUARY. HE CONTINUED THE FRENCH HAD  
DROPPED THEIR DEMAND THAT THE ESA DIRECTOR BE FRENCH.  
INSTEAD THEY WERE WILLING TO ACCEPT SOMEONE OF APPRO-  
PRIATE ABILITY, WHICH SAUER ASSUMED INCLUDED THE ACTING  
ESRO DIRECTOR GIBSON. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE MOST  
IMPORTANT CONCLUSION OF THE D'ORNANO-MATTHOEFER  
MEETING WAS THE DECISION TO FILL THE VACANT PROGRAM

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DIRECTOR POSITIONS AT ESRO. FOR THE PAST YEAR,  
THE UNDERSTAFFED MANAGEMENT OF ESRO HAD BEEN UNDER

TERRIFIC PRESSURE AND THE STRAIN WAS BEGINNING TO SHOW.

4. ON DEC 20, ESRO INFORMED THE NASA REP THAT THE ESRO COUNCIL AT A RESTRICTED SESSION HAD AGREED TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM DIRECTORS: BERNARD DE LOFFRE (FRANCE) AS MANAGER OF THE SPACELAB PROGRAM; WALTER LUKSCH (GERMANY) AS MANAGER OF THE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM; MASSIMO TRELLA (ITALY) AS TECHNICAL INSPECTOR; AND MR. HAWKES (UK) AS HEAD DEPARTMENT DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE ESTEC CENTER.  
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THE APPOINTMENTS WILL BE CONFIRMED JAN 16 BY THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERIAL ALTERNATES, BUT THIS IS CONSIDERED TO BE A FORMALITY.

5. IN THE AREA OF COMPUTERS, THE MINISTERS REPORTEDLY DID NOT REACH ANY RESOLUTION OF THE PROPOSED NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNIDATA, A CONSORTIUM OF THREE EUROPEAN COMPUTER FIRMS: CII OF FRANCE, SIEMENS OF GERMANY, AND PHILLIPS OF THE NETHERLANDS. REPORTEDLY, D'ORNANO WANTED TO ASSURE THE GERMANS THAT THE GOF WOULD SOON DECIDE TO INCREASE THE CII'S CAPITALIZATION BY UPPING THE GOF'S SUBSIDY FOR CII OR BY ALLOWING A MERGER OF CII WITH AN AMERICAN COMPUTER FIRM, PROBABLY HONEYWELL-BULLE.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPACE AGREEMENTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, SPACE PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 OCT 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <28-Oct-2002 by golinofr>  
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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRANCO-GERMAN AGREEMENT ON SPACE ISSUES  
**TAGS:** TSPA, FR, GE, NASA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005